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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS, et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2551-142

Serial No. 10/822,711

Group: 1634

Filed: April 13, 2004

Examiner: Whisenant

For: PROCESS FOR TYPING OF HCV ISOLATES

\* \* \* \* \*

November 8, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REQUEST**

The Examiner is requested to return a completely-initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form bearing the OIPE date-stamped of July 9, 2004. Specifically, the PTO-1449 Form returned with the Office Action of October 17, 2005, does not include the Examiner's initials next to U.S. references 6,548,244 B2, 5,176,994 and 5,629,153. The entirety of the PTO-1449 Form has been initialed by the Examiner on October 10, 2005, and the other references indicated as having been specifically considered by initialing next to each of the references. The noted references however do not include in the left-hand column the Examiner's initials. A completely-initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form, pursuant to MPEP § 609, is requested.

The Examiner is also requested to return an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 filed with the Information Disclosure Statement filed October 18, 2005.

**MAERTENS, et al.**  
**Serial No. 10/822,711**

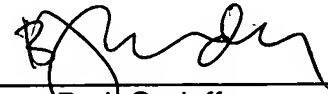
Acknowledgement of receipt of certified copies of the foreign priority documents filed in the parent application is also requested.

The present paper is not being filed in response to the Office Action of October 17, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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